

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for culturing a stem and/or progenitor cell population, comprising the step of culturing an input population of non-hematopoietic stem and/or progenitor cells by non-static non-adherent suspension in serum-deprived nutrient medium.
2. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the input population comprises stem and/or progenitor cells having a CD45-phenotype.
3. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the input population comprises mesenchymal progenitor cells.
4. (Original) A process according to claim 3, wherein the serum-deprived nutrient medium is supplemented with a factor selected from stem cell factor, interleukin-3 and a combination thereof.
5. (Original) A process according to claim 3, wherein the serum-deprived nutrient medium is supplemented with interleukin-3.
6. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 3, wherein said input population further comprises a population of CD45+ stem and/or progenitor cells.
7. (Currently Amended) A process according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the input cell population is cultured for a period sufficient to expand the stem and/or progenitor cell population therein.
8. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a differentiated non-hematopoietic cell, comprising the step of obtaining a stem and/or progenitor cell produced according to a process as defined in ~~any one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1, and culturing said stem and/or progenitor cell under conditions conducive to the differentiation thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) An isolated population of ~~mesenchymal~~ stem and/or progenitor cells having a CD45-/CD123+ phenotype
10. (New) A population of stem and/or progenitor cells having a CD45-CD123+ phenotype according to claim 9, wherein the cells are obtained by non-static non-adherent suspension culturing in serum-deprived nutrient medium.
11. (New) A cell culture composition comprising a stem and/or progenitor cell population in non-static, non-adherent suspension culture in serum-deprived nutrient medium.
12. (New) The population of claim 11, wherein the stem and/or progenitor cells have a CD45- CD123+ phenotype.
13. (New) The process of claim 7, further comprising isolating the stem and/or progenitor cell population and admixing it with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
14. (New) A pharmaceutical formulation produced by the process of claim 13.
15. (New) The process of any of claims 1-6, wherein the input cell population is derived from a tissue.
16. (New) The process of claim 15, wherein the tissue is selected from the group consisting of bone marrow stroma, umbilical cord including Wharton's jelly, umbilical cord blood and placental blood, placenta, peripheral blood, skin, adipose tissue, and muscle.